

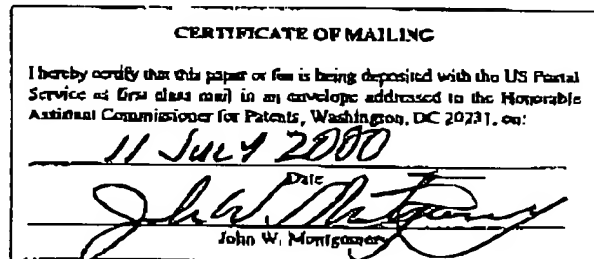
DOCKET #: 901033-1001

PATENT

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application Of: Wilde et al.  
Serial No.: 09/305,295  
Filed: 05/07/99  
Art Unit: 3673  
Examiner: J. Lee  
For: VARIABLE BUOYANCY BUOY FOR MOORING MOBILE  
OFFSHORE DRILLING UNITS

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 04/11/00, in which Claims 30-41 were pending, Claims 30-41 were rejected and the Action was made final. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's careful review of Claim 40 and proposals for overcoming certain indefiniteness detected in Claim 40. Applicant also notes with appreciation the Examiner's beneficial suggestions during a telephone interview on 06/13/00. Appropriate corrections to incorporate such suggestions are set forth below.